

Mansfield Board of Education Meeting

December 10, 2009

Minutes

Attendees: Shamim Patwa, Vice-Chair, Chris Kueffner, Secretary, Holly Matthews, Martha Kelly, Mark LaPlaca, Min Lin, Katherine Paulhus, Carrie Silver-Bernstein, Randy Walikonis, Superintendent Fred Baruzzi, Board Clerk, Celeste Griffin.

Absent:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Ms. Patwa, Vice-Chair

Election of Officers: Chair: Ms. Patwa nominated Mr. LaPlaca, seconded by Mr. Walikonis. Mrs. Paulhus nominated Ms. Lin, seconded by Mrs. Kelly, Ms. Lin declined. Mrs. Kelly nominated Ms. Patwa, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus, Ms. Patwa declined. Mrs. Paulhus nominated Mr. Kueffner, seconded by Ms. Patwa, Mr. Kueffner declined. VOTE for Mr. LaPlaca as Board Chair: Ms. Patwa, Mr. Kueffner, Ms. Matthews, Ms. Lin, Ms. Silver-Bernstein, and Mr. Walikonis in favor. Mrs. Kelly opposed. Mrs. Paulhus abstained. Mr. LaPlaca, Board Chair, appointed Ms. Patwa Vice-Chair. Secretary: Ms. Lin nominated Mr. Kueffner, seconded by Mrs. Kelly. VOTE for Mr. Kueffner as Secretary: Unanimous in favor.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: Jessica Higham congratulated Mr. LaPlaca.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Goodwin Committee: Letters were mailed to all applicants. Follow-up to applicants to confirm their receipt and answer any questions. Mrs. Paulhus attended the EASTCONN Executive Committee meeting. Mr. Baruzzi reminded the Board that there will be a joint meeting of Building Committee, Town Council, and Board of Education on Monday, December 14th at 6:00pm in the Council Chambers.

There will be a Board Workshop on Board Rights and Responsibilities with Board Attorney on Thursday, January 7, 2010 at 6:00pm, followed by an Executive Session with Board Attorney, Town Manager and Director of Facilities to discuss contract negotiations.

November Workshop, 2009-2010 Goals and Objectives Revisions: Following discussion of suggested revisions, further discussion deferred to future meeting.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

- ARRA First Quarter: The Board reviewed a letter from the Commissioner of Education with a brief overview of the first reporting period of ARRA.
- Healthy Food Certification: Mr. Baruzzi reported the District's documentation for 2009-2010 has been successfully completed.
- Community Conversations: The eight community conversation meetings were successful, but lightly attended. Mr. Baruzzi will hold them again in the Spring.
- Legislative Breakfast: Mr. Baruzzi attended the annual breakfast hosted by EASTCONN.
- Municipal Budget Meeting: Mr. Baruzzi attended this meeting with Superintendents, Legislators, and Town Officials of the three sending districts to Region 19.
- Use of Certified Staff Time: Mr. Baruzzi reported that the Administrators are reviewing all aspects of certified staff time and professional development time.

- Related Arts Fund Raiser: Mr. Cryan reported on a breakfast fund raiser at Applebee's Restaurant hosted by the Related Arts Department. The Board expressed support of the fund raiser.
- AlertNow: Mr. Baruzzi reported on this new program that will be used by the bus company to inform parents of late buses beginning Monday, December 14, 2009..
- Test Results: Mr. Baruzzi shared test results of Region 19 9th graders, as well as first marking period honor roll results.
- Class Size/Enrollment: The administrators noted no major changes in enrollment in November. An Instructional Assistant position for this year only will be posted to help with larger class sizes in the 6th grade.
- Enhancing Student Achievement: Six new projects were reviewed and will be implemented at the schools in support of this activity.

NEW BUSINESS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: **MOTION** by Ms. Patwa, seconded Mr. Kueffner that the following item for the Board of Education meeting of December 10, 2009 be approved or received for the record: **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the minutes of the November 12th Board Meeting.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: None

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: Ms. Silver-Bernstein requested future discussion on the *Bridges* Math Program. Ms. Patwa requested a presentation on the MMS Writing Program.

MOTION by Ms. Lin, seconded by Mr. Kueffner to move into Executive Session at 9:15pm. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

MOTION by Mr. Kueffner, seconded by Ms. Patwa to move out of Executive Session at 10:20. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

MOTION by Mrs. Kelly, to adjourn at 10:20pm. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste N. Griffin, Board Clerk